

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 064164
ORIGIN SS-25

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O 132318Z MAR 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 064164

STADIS/////////////////////////////////
EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MMO, FR, CD

SUBJECT: US MILITARY ASSISTANCE TO CHAD

FOR AMBASSADOR HARTMAN

1. DEPARTMENT IS CONSIDERING INFORMING THE GOVERNMENT OF CHAD THAT, AFTER REVIEWING WAYS IN WHICH USG MIGHT PROVIDE ASSISTANCE TO CHAD, WE HAVE CONCLUDED THAT NO DIRECT US MILITARY ASSISTANCE TO CHAD WILL BE POSSIBLE, ALTHOUGH AS GOF IS AWARE WE MADE CHAD ELIGIBLE FOR FMS IN SEPTEMBER AND HAVE STRONGLY SUPPORTED CHADIAN EFFORTS TO OBTAIN US ORIGIN EQUIPMENT FROM OTHER COUNTRIES. WE NOTE ALSO RECENT USG DECISION REGARDING ARMS FOR MOROCCO AND THAT OVER DOLS 800 MILLION OF EXIM BANK COMMITMENTS AND PRE-COMMITMENTS TO ALGERIA ARE UNDER CONSIDERATION AND MAY BE
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APPROVED IN THE NEAR FUTURE.

2. DEPARTMENT WOULD LIKE EMBASSY'S ASSESSMENT OF WHETHER NEWS OF THESE DECISIONS WOULD AFFECT GOF WILLINGNESS TO CONTINUE ASSISTANCE TO CHAD AND US/GOS COOPERATION ON AFRICAN ISSUES IN GENERAL. WOULD ALSO LIKE EMBASSY'S ASSESSMENT OF LIKELY IMPACT, IF ANY, OF THIS DECISION ON

THE POLICIES OF A LEFT GOVERNMENT TOWARD CHAD AND AFRICA
IN GENERAL.

3. WOULD APPRECIATE EMBASSY ASSESSMENT SOONEST. VANCE

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